

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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P 122220Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 938

INFO DIA WASHDC

USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 6354

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: ARMY COMMAND CONCILIATORY TOWARD CIMP

REF: LIMA 6317

1. GENERAL FERNANDEZ MALDONADO AS COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE ARMY ISSUED A JULY 10 COMMUNIQUE STATING THAT OFFICIALS AND CADETS IN THE MILITARY INSTRUCTION CENTER (CIMP) WHO MADE "COMMON CAUSE WITH THEIR LEADER", WERE THE VICTIMS OF "DISTORTED INFORMATION". FERNANDEZ MALDONADO DECLARED THAT BOBBIO'S RETIREMENT WAS "JUSTIFIED AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPER LEGAL NORMS".

2. ACCORDING TO THE FERNANDEZ MALDONADO COMMUNIQUE NEITHER GENERAL BOBBIO NOR THOSE UNDER HIS COMMAND EVER INTENDED TO "QUESTION THE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS OR ITS LEADER GENERAL MORALES BERMUDEZ". FERNANDEZ MALDONADO ALLEGED THAT COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL GROUPS ATTEMPTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ISUTATION AT THE CIMP. HOWEVER, FERNANDEZ MALDONADO STATED THAT WHEN GENERAL BOBBIO AND OTHER CIMP OFFICIALS LEARNED OF  
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THIS EFFORT TO POLITICIZE THE SITUATION THEY "PLEDGED" LOYALTY

TO THE COUNTRY AND THEIR INSTITUTION ABOVE ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS AND CEASED THEIR ATTITUDE TODAY (AFTERNOON OF JULY 10". FERNANDEZ MALDONADO CONCLUDED HIS DECLARATION BY CLAIMING THAT THE CIMP HAD RETURNED TO NORMAL AND THE ARMY REMAINED FIRMLY UNITED. HE AFFIRMED THAT ALL PARTIES MAINTAINED A SENSE OF PRUDENCE THROUGHOUT THE INCIDENT AND "THERE WERE NO INJURIES".

3. THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF THE JULY 10 INTRA-ARMY CRISIS WAS THE FERNANDEZ MALDONADO-BOBBIO FACE OFF DISCUSSED REFTEL. MOST POLITICAL SOURCES REFER TO A RECENT ARGUMENT BETWEEN THE TWO EN OVER THE POLITICAL PLAN "TUPAC AMARU" WHICH PURPORTEDLY WILL BE RELEASED JULY 28 AND WHICH BOBBIO ALLEGEDLY OPPOSED. WE KNOW THAT BOBBIO REFUSED TO ACCEPT HIS REMOVAL FROM THE CIMP COMMAND AND WAS SUPPORTED BY OFFICIALS THERE. HE WAS NOT FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM THE CIMP JULY 9 AND ONLY LEFT THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 10, REPORTEDLY FOLLOWING A DAY-LONG SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS WITH MILGOV LEADERS INCLUDING MORALES BERMUDEZ. A CONDITION FOR TERMINATING THE INCIDENT PEACEFULLY MAY HAVE BEEN THAT BOBBIO SUFFER NO MORE THAN FORCED RETIREMENT AND THAT DISCIPLINARY ACTION NOT BE TAKEN AGAINST OTHER ARMY OFFICERS AT THE CIMP. THUS FERNANDEZ MALDONADO'S CONCILIATORY DECLARATION.

4. GENERAL PEDRO RICHTER PRADA HAS BEEN NAMED TO REPLACE BOBBIO. RICHTER'S REPLACEMENT AS ARMY INSPECTOR GENERAL IS RUMORED TO BE GENERAL PEREZ TENAUD. ALTHOUGH A MODERATE AND EVEN ANTI-COMMUNIST AS INTERIOR MINISTER UNDER VELASCO, RICHTER IS AN ORGANIZATION MAN LONG ASSOCIATED WITH THE INNER CIRCLE OF PERU'S GOVERNMENT OF THE REVOLUTION WHICH INCLUDES FERNANDEZ MALDONADO BUT NOT BOBBIO. PEREZ TENAUD IS THE BROTHER-IN-LAW OF RETIRED LEFTIST GENERAL LEONIDAS RODRIGUEZ FIGUEROA (NOW ADVISOR TO THE PRASANT FEDERATION CNA).

5. SOME TENSION MUST CONTINUE WITHIN THE ARMY, AND NAVY DISCONTENT WITH DEVELOPMENTS IS APPARENT. HOWEVER, THE GOP IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE SITUATION WITHIN THE MILGOV AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY IS NORMAL. THE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NIGHT CURFEW WAS SET BACK FROM 10:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT. IF NO DISTURBANCES BREAK OUT JULY 12 AS SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES OPEN, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE GOP MIGHT BEFORE LONG EXTEND THE MIDNIGHT CURFEW OR PERHAPS DROP IT ALTOGETHER. LABOR PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, LOOM ON THE HORIZON. THE FAR-LEFT LABOR FEDERATION CCUSC (STRONG IN MINES AND WITH TEACHERS) HAS CALLED A GENERAL STRIKE FOR JULY 16.

6. AS A FOOTNOTE TO JULY 1 DISTURBANCES, THE GOP ANNOUNCED THE DEPORTATION OF FORMER GUERRILLA LEADER HUGO BLANCO FOR HIS "PARTICIPATION IN INCIDENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE LIMA

AREA". GOP SOURCES TOLD EMBASSY THAT BLANCO RETURNED FROM EXILE  
IN 1975 AND IMMEDIATELY SET OUT TO RADICALIZE SLUM TOWN DWELLERS.  
DEAN

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